The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

The care of the Public Health is the first duty of every statesman.—Disraeli.

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WHOLE NO 1416 WILLIAM GREEN, President WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 1938 FRANK MORRISON, Secretary-Treasurer VOL. 28, NO. 23

EDITORIALS

Presbyterians Support Collective Bargaining Principle

A strongly worded statement favoring collective bargaining for the adjustment of relations arising between workers and employers in our complex system of industry and commerce was adopted by the 150th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America, held recently in Philadelphia, and recommended for the serious consideration of its two million communicants and the nation at large.

"The right of collective bargaining, which our Church has recognized since 1910, has now become the law of the land," the statement said. "It is therefore incumbent upon employers and labor leaders alike to cooperate in establishing an industrial regime that will be increasingly democratic, peaceful and just.

"We therefore urge a surrender of methods of espionage, violence, deception, intimidation and racketeering and a wholehearted acceptance of the principle of mediation and arbitration."

Collective bargaining is the fundamental principle of the American Federation of Labor in securing a system of economic relations that is just both to workers who create our wealth and employers who own our industries. If employers would sincerely translate into concrete action the sound philosophy underlying the American Federation of Labor and supported by the Presbyterian Assembly there would indeed be a stable foundation for peace in industry and a united front against subversive forces threatening American institutions.

Judge Vetoes Compulsory Work

The legal power of a United States Court, whose function is to enforce the American Constitution and laws, to compel members of a labor union to work was recently considered in Philadelphia by Federal Judge Oliver B. Dickinson, who negatived the proposition.

The matter came before Judge Dickinson on a petition of the New Bedford Fish Company, of New Bedford, Mass., for an order restraining the American Federation of Labor United Seafood Workers Union No. 20384 from refusing to handle its shipments in Philadelphia until the firm's attorney looked up legal precedents.

The union, the court was told, refused to touch the firm's products because of a labor dispute in New Bedford which the attorney for the concern contended affected another company. As a result of the union's action it was alleged that forty barrels of mackerel spoiled in Philadelphia.

In considering the application for the injunction Judge Dickinson expressed doubts that any court has the power "to make a man work if he doesn't want to."

"We don't ask that," counsel for the New Bedford firm answered. "We want an order on the union not to discriminate against us. It is handling the fish products of other people, and we are entitled to the same consideration."

Not to be caught by this sophistication, Judge Dickinson retorted: "But it all comes back to the same point. You want the court to order men to go to work."

Answering the specious reasoning of the firm's counsel asking for a delay in the final action of the court until legal precedents could be examined, Judge Dickinson said: "I don't think you'll find any."

The Court and the attorney for the company discussed at length the difference between a "mandatory order" to work and a restraining order to "stop discrimination." But Judge Dickinson was adamant in his conviction that the purpose of the injunction was to "force" members of a labor union to work. He found no authority either in the Constitution of the United States or in statute law to enforce compulsory labor on the members of a labor union. His position was buttressed by the provisions of the Norris-LaGuardia Injunction Act definitely restricting the power of Federal judges to issue injunctions in labor disputes.

Exempting the Rich From Taxation

With all of the present hullabaloo over the capital gains tax, the undistributed profits tax, the tax on corporations and many other taxes included in the 1938 revenue law, coupled with the persistent demand for a balanced budget by the Federal Government, it is too bad that the adjournment of Congress approaches without legislation making the owners of Federal, State, and municipal bonds subject to taxation to help defray the necessary expenses of the United States Government.

According to statistics compiled by congressional tax experts there were outstanding on July 1, 1936, the vast amount of $54,489,000,000 in Federal, State, and local securities on which the interest, totaling approximately two billion dollars, is wholly or partially exempt from taxation. It is believed that since July 1, 1936, enough of these tax exempt securities have been issued to bring the total up to nearly $60,000,000,000.

Tax experts estimate that at least $1,100,000,000 of the two billion dollars of interest would be subject to Federal surtaxes plus the normal tax. This is proof that tax exempt Government securities are a safe refuge for the rich and the very rich whose conception of patriotism is the desire to free themselves from the application of the principle of taxation in accordance with ability to pay, which is regarded as fundamental in the American system.

Sixty billion dollars of wealth represented in Government securities whose owners pay very little taxes to support the Federal Government is certainly an injustice which warrants legislation correction.

Preventing War

The Committee on Military Affairs of the United States Senate has submitted a report recommending the enactment of the bill, introduced by Senator Lee of Oklahoma, "to promote peace and the national defense through a more equal distribution of the burdens of war by drafting the use of money according to ability to lend to the Government."

Standing on the conviction that the owners of property should be required to make sacrifices during a war and prevented from amassing large profits from war, the bill declares "that whenever Congress shall declare war, or shall declare that the imminence of war has created an emergency which in the judgment of the President is sufficiently serious to necessitate an increase in the Military Establishment by the drafting of manpower, the President is authorized and requested to cause to be taken a census of the net wealth of the nation."

On the basis of the wealth census the law would require persons owning wealth valued at $1,000 or more to lend portions of it to the Government in return for fifty-year bonds carrying one per cent interest, the bonds being redeemable at the option of the Government.

The apportionment of the compulsory loan is graduated in a manner similar to the Federal income tax, laying the heaviest burden on those most able to lend. The loans range from five per cent on net wealth of from $1,000 to $10,000 and ten per cent on wealth ranging from $10,000 to $100,000 up to 75 per cent on wealth above $100,000,000.

Pointing out that one of the greatest incentives to war is the "possibility of making profit by means of high interest rates during the war," the report declares that the enactment of the Lee bill "would remove any possibility of profits resulting from financing the war," and "would help to equalize the financial burden of war," the report added:

"Instead of holding out the tempting incentive of high interest rates for the use of money in the case of war, it would say to the financiers of the United States, 'If the United States goes to war, you will be compelled to finance it, and that not at a profit, but at a loss.'

"The surest way to prevent this country from being drawn into a future war is to draft money as well as manpower. When the financial tycoons and large manufacturers realize that they will have to lend the bulk of the money necessary to finance the next war, at an extremely low rate of interest, they will hesitate to use the forces at their command to propagandize the general public into a war hysteria.

"Thus we will have taken another step in the direction of peace by having removed one more cause of war."

The Lee bill will, of course, not be acted on by the present session of Congress. But its drastic provision for the drafting of wealth as well as manpower in case of war is bound to create earnest thought among all classes of people, and especially among those who know the horrible sacrifices in life and health which all wars impose upon humanity.

PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED WORKERS GIVEN WPA JOBS

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

New York, N. Y.—Lieut. Col. Brehon B. Somervell, Works Progress Administrator for New York City, said that between 200 and 300 jobless persons, many of them drawn from the ranks of the physically handicapped, will be employed in the new WPA project for making toys and repairing donated toys and nursery furniture, which will be distributed to needy families and social agencies without cost.

A. F. of L. Quarry Workers Win Strike

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Verplanck, N. Y.—The ten weeks' strike of around 100 employes of the New York Trap Rock Corporation here ended with the quarry workers returning to their jobs under the terms of an A. F. of L. agreement. The strike was instigated by members of the C. I. O., who did not desire to recognize as binding the A. F. of L. contract.

GREEN INTERPRETS PRINTERS ELECTION

Says Baker's Defeat of Howard Is Repudiation of the C. I. O. by Typographical Union Members.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, issued the following statement on the victory of Claude M. Baker over Charles P. Howard for the presidency of the International Typographical Union:

"I congratulate the union printers of the nation on their success in removing from control of their organization a termite President who sought to bore from within and destroy an outstanding American Federation of Labor union.

"The election of Baker represents a triumph for honesty over hypocrisy. Baker stood four-square for loyalty to the American Federation of Labor. Howard tried to remain as President of the I. T. U. while continuing to serve as secretary of the C. I. O. The printers showed what they thought of such double-dealing.

"The result constitutes a smashing repudiation of the C. I. O. by one of the most intelligent bodies of union members in the country. Put to the democratic test of the ballot, the C. I. O. again went down to inglorious defeat.

"I defy the C. I. O. to call this a 'moral victory.' A few more such 'moral victories' as the Pennsylvania primaries and the I. T. U. elections and the C. I. O. will be wiped off the map.

"The American Federation of Labor is now stronger and more united in purpose than ever before in its history."

FRANK FEENEY IS DEAD; HEADED ELEVATOR UNION

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Philadelphia, Pa.—Frank R. Feeney, of Philadelphia, international president of the Elevator Constructors Union, A. F. of L. affiliate, for the last 35 years and formerly a powerful figure in Philadelphia politics, died of heart ailment on May 28 at his summer home in Atlantic City, N. J. He was sixty-eight years old.

Mr. Feeney was born in New York City on April 22, 1870. He moved to Philadelphia while a young man and became active in trade union work. He was a delegate to the American Federation of Labor convention for the first time in 1896; continuing as a delegate until his death.

He was active in Republican politics in Philadelphia, and was reputed to have organized the labor movement in Pennsylvania for Senator Penrose during the latter's leadership.

He served as president of the Philadelphia Central Labor Union for seven years, and was former head of the Philadelphia Building Trades Council. He was chief of the Philadelphia Bureau of Electrical Inspection from 1908 to 1911, and from 1919 to 1922 held the position of Supervising Referee for the Pennsylvania Workmen's Compensation Bureau. In 1932 Mr. Feeney threatened to call a strike of the 19,000 members of the Elevator Constructors Union, but abandoned the plan after obtaining a satisfactory settlement of the wage question from the Elevator Manufacturers' Association.

His widow, Mrs. Lillian Feeney, a son, Frank Feeney, Jr., secretary-treasurer of the international union, and a daughter, Nellie Feeney, survive him.

Solemn requiem mass was sung in the Church of the Transfiguration here on June 1. Burial was in Holy Cross Cemetery.

James J. Knoud, general organizer of the American Federation of Labor here, attended the funeral service as the representative of the Federation.

AFL UNION RECOGNIZED BY WASHINGTON HOTEL

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—The management of the Raleigh Hotel here has accepted local No. 80, Hotel and Restaurant Employes Alliance, an A. F. of L. affiliate, as the exclusive representative of approximately 100 service employes, putting into effect an order of the National Labor Relations Board.

The exclusive-representative order covers the following classifications of employes: All service employes, including doormen, bellmen, elevator operators (front and back), lobby porters, housemen, wall washers, vacuum men, cleaners and maids.

The following classifications were excluded: Foremen and those employed in a supervisory capacity, telephone operators, porters, clerical workers, front office employes, timekeepers, engineers, firemen, valets, linen room clerks, inspectresses, house officers, and night watchmen.

At a meeting between representatives of the union and the hotel management an agreement was reached for an eight-hour day, hiring through the union, an increase in wages, and time and one-half for overtime.

PROBE OF SUBVERSIVE PROPAGANDA ORDERED

Nazi, Fascist and Communist Groups In the United States Will Be Investigated by Committee of Seven Congressmen.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washinton, D. C.—The House of Representatives passed by a vote of 191 to 41 the resolution presented by Representative Dies of Texas authorizing the Speaker of the House to appoint a committee of seven members for the purpose of conducting an investigation of the following subjects:

"1. The extent, character, and objects of un-American propaganda activities in the United States;

"2. The diffusion within the United States of subversive and un-American propaganda that is instigated from foreign countries or of a domestic origin and which attacks the principle of the form of government as guaranteed by our Constitution;

"3. All other questions in relation thereto that would aid Congress in any necessary remedial legislation."

Although the dictatorships upheld by Stalin in the Soviet Union, Hitler in Germany and Mussolini in Italy are not specifically mentioned in the resolution, Representative Dies explained that the Nazi, Fascist and Communist movements are the aim of the probe.

"So far as I am concerned," he said, "I regard communism and nazi-ism and fascism as having one underlying principle—dictatorship—the theory that government should have the right to control the lives, the fortunes, the happiness, the beliefs, and every detail of the life of the human being, and that man is a pawn of the government, rather than the American conception that government is created for the benefit of mankind."

UNION-MADE GOODS FAVORED BY GOV. LECHE OF LOUISIANA

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—I. M. Ornburn, secretary-treasurer of the Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, who returned to his Washington headquarters after successfully inaugurating the first American Federation of Labor Union Label and Industrial Exhibition, featuring union-made products and union services, in Cincinnati, received a notice from Governor Richard W. Leche of Louisiana that henceforth Louisiana would give preference to union-made goods.

In his notice to the heads of all State boards, departments, commissions and institutions, the Governor said:

"As you know, this administration has constantly and consistantly fought for the betterment of the masses of the people of this State and for the improvement of working conditions of the laboring man. As you further know, the greatest bulwark that the working man has against oppression, and at the same time, the greatest vehicle to further his welfare, is organization.

"Therefore I hereby instruct you that in the future, whenever it becomes necessary to purchase any materials for the use of your Board, Department, Commission or Institution, where price and quality are equal, you give preference to Union-made products."

Child Workers in Tiff Mines Labor Ten Hours Daily; Paid $2.87 Per Week

Many Exploited Boys and Girls in Missouri Enter Mines at Six to Ten Years of Age and Are Deprived of Elementary Schooling; Childhood Blighted by Malnutrition and Disease.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

One of the strongest arguments yet presented for the prompt ratification of the Child Labor Amendment to the Federal Constitution by the eight additional States required to make it a part of our fundamental law is contained in accounts given in recent documents published by the National Child Labor Committee regarding the intolerable and inhuman exploitation of children by the business groups who operate the tiff mines in Missouri.

Tiff, or barite, is a mineral substance used in the manufacture of many common commercial articles, such as window shades, stiff paper, paint and toothpaste. "Of the quantity used in the United States," the Child Labor Committee says, "57 per cent is mined by hand processes in Missouri. Holes are dug from five to thirty feet deep and the barite separated from the clay and flint which is thrown out. Even very small children can learn to distinguish the lumps of tiff and collect them in buckets or piles."

The interest of the Child Labor Committee in the Missouri tiff mine situation was aroused in the Spring of 1937 when the Legislature of that State, at the request of representatives from the tiff mine area, enacted a law exempting boys and girls working with their parents from the statute prohibiting the sale in interstate commerce of goods mined by children under 18 years of age. School attendance laws in the tiff mine section were "just forgotten."

On the basis of a thorough investigation conducted during 1937, the Child Labor Committee reached the inescapable conclusion that the tiff mine area of Missouri is "a sore spot in the industrial life of the United States. Poverty, ignorance, illiteracy, child labor, with children from six or seven years up working regularly in the tiff diggings, child marriages, malnutrition and disease characterize this section of Missouri where existence is dependent upon and dominated by the tiff mine industry."

With regard to education, "Children were found who had never attended school."

Ten-Year-Old Children Enter Mines

The Child Labor Committee estimated that during the school year 8.4 per cent of all children of school age (7 to 15 years, inclusive) are employed in the mines, either during or outside of school hours, and in the summer the percentage is much higher.

The Committee selected for intensive study 80 families where school records revealed, one or more children of compulsory attendance age were out of school digging or scrapping tiff. Its report stated:

Paid Less Than $2 Per Week

"In these families there were 86 children 15 years and younger working in tiff mines of whom 32 were 13 years or younger. Nine of the children were girls. Exactly half stated that they had started work in the tiff mines before they were 12 years old and 21 before they were 10.

"The average number of hours worked per day was 7.4 but 20 per cent of the children worked 9 or 10 hours, including some of the younger ones. The earnings of the 86 children averaged $2.87 per week, with 20 earning less than $2.

"Although 54 of the children were 14 and 15 years of age, only 7 had completed the eighth grade. Half of the children 12 years and older had not completed the third grade.

"A supplementary school attendance study, covering records of 1801 children between 7 and 15 years in the community, revealed that 217, over 10 per cent, had not been in school at all this year. Of this number 128 were working, of whom 80 were in tiff mines, 58 were idle, 14 married, and in 17 cases absence was due to physical or mental incapacity, etc.

"Even among the 1584 who were enrolled in school, 52 children had been out for work in the mines, the average number of days missed being 15, or 40 per cent of the total time school had been in session at the time of the study."

In connection with the existence and continuance of this economic slavery imposed on child tiff mine workers, it should not be overlooked that, according to the Child Labor Committee, the National Lead Company, officered by prominent business citizens of the United States, "is the leading owner of tiff land and purchaser of its products."

Big Convention Planned by Theatrical Stage Employes and Moving Picture Operators

Over 900 Delegates Will Attend Cleveland Meeting Opening on June 6; Governor Davey and President Green Included Among Speakers.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, will be the principle speaker at the thirty-fourth convention of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes and Moving Picture Machine Operators of the United States and Canada which convenes June 6 in Cleveland, Ohio, according to an announcement of the Alliance made public at its headquarters here.

Other speakers are Governor Martin L. Davey; Harold H. Burton, Mayor of Cleveland; United States Senator Robert J. Buckley of Ohio; D. W. Tracy, President, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers; Representative William T. Schulte, Indiana; the Rev. J. W. R. MacGuire, C. S. V., St. Viator College; Rabbi Jacob Tarshish, New York City, and other prominent figures.

The convention, which lasts through the week of June 6, will be attended by more than 900 delegates from 706 local unions. Considerable interest will center on the biennial report to be submitted by George E. Browne, International President of the Alliance. During Mr. Browne's tenure of office, wage scales and working conditions have been vastly improved and the membership has been substantially increased. As a result of Mr. Browne's efforts Hollywood studio workers have obtained the first closed shop in Southern California.

"We shall leave theory to the campus economists and the curbstone jurists," asserted Mr. Browne in a pre-convention statement, "and attack our problems in practical and realistic fashion. We of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes and Moving Picture Machine Operators of the United States and Canada are an integral part of the amusement business. We seek to obtain steady employment at proper wage levels for our membership and to maintain the jurisdictional integrity of the IATSE. To that end my administration bends every effort."

The first local of the IATSE was organized more than 50 years ago and today the membership exceeds 50,000 workers engaged in the legitimate theatre, motion picture studios, motion picture theatres and allied fields. The IATSE is the dominant labor organization in "show business" and is an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor.

Nationalization of Coal Mines Is Urged By Trades Union Congress In Scotland

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

The nationalization of British coal mines and coal by-products plants and their operation under a Government Department to guarantee reasonable prices to the consumers and provide adequately for the national defense was urged by the 1938 Annual Scottish Trades Union Congress recently held in Glasgow, Scotland. In its decision outlining its recommendation on this question the Congress said:

"Having regard to the heavy burden which is being imposed on householders and industry generally by the alarming increase in the price of coal as expressed by the difference between the pithead price and the price paid by the consumer, an increase which is likely to extend still further, and which is not justifiable in the light of the scandalously bad conditions of employment under which the miners of this country have to work, and which is the consequence of a chaotic system of distribution, this Congress definitely expresses the opinion that the coal should become the property of the nation.

"This Congress further reaffirms previous decisions that as coal and its by-products are essential commodities in national defense, and for the development of industries in which cheap and adequate power is imperative, the Government should adopt the findings of the Sankey Commission of 1919 by introducing, without further delay, a bill to nationalize coal mines and ancillary undertakings, and to establish a Government Department under a Minister of Mines for the purpose of controlling the production, distribution and development of this national asset."

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE DRAFTS FEDERAL WAGE AND HOUR BILL

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—The action of Speaker Bankhead of the House of Representatives in appointing seven conferees on the Wages and Hours Bill, originally passed by the Senate and drastically amended by the House, to meet with the seven Senate conferees already named to harmonize the differences between the two measures means that the conference committee will draft a new Wage and Hour Bill probably differing materially from both the Senate and the House text.

In addition to Mrs. Mary T. Norton of New Jersey, chairman of the House Labor Committee, Speaker Bankhead appointed the following representatives as conferees to represent the House: Robert Ramspeck, Georgia; Glenn Griswold, Indiana; Kent E. Keller, Illinois; Matthew A. Dunn, Pennsylvania; Richard J. Welch, California, and Fred A. Hartley, Jr., New Jersey.

The Senate conferees are: Elbert D. Thomas, chairman of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, Utah; David I. Walsh, Massachusetts; James E. Murray, Montana; Claude Pepper, Florida; Allen J. Ellender, Louisiana; William E. Borah, Idaho, and Robert M. La Follette, Jr., Wisconsin.

Inasmuch as the amendment to the Senate bill adopted by the House of Representatives struck out everything after the enacting clause, the conferees have the authority under congressional rules to write an entirely new bill and submit it as a conferees report to both Houses. The report is not subject to amendment and must either be adopted in its entirety or recommitted to the conferees with instructions to make specified changes.

The differences which the conferees will undertake to adjust are very drastic.

The House bill authorizes the Secretary of Labor to apply graduated wage and hour standards to industries found to be engaged in interstate commerce. The wage standards under the House bill begin at 25 cents an hour for the first year and change thereafter in three annual steps to 40 cents an hour. The hour standards begin with a 44-hour week and are reduced by two annual steps to a 40-hour week. These wages and hours are universally applied without differentials to every section of the country. The House bill is administered by the Secretary of Labor, with the enforcement vested in the Department of Justice.

The Senate bill sets up a Labor Standards Board of five members which would apply minimum wage and maximum hour standards after investigating conditions in each industry and locality. The Senate bill bars the Board from fixing maximum hours less than 40 hours per week and minimum wages in excess of 40 cents per hour, but permits differentials between various areas. Differentials of any sort are banned by the House bill.

The exemptions from the provisions of the bill differ largely in the Senate and House texts.

Exempted From the Wage and Hour Bill

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

One would think from the verbal violence and tumult which the low-pay and long-work-week cohorts inside and outside of Congress have unlimbered against the Federal Wage and Hour Bill passed by the House of Representatives that when it becomes a law every employer in the United States will be required to pay all of his employes a starting minimum wage of $11 for a 44-hour week, escalated up in wages and down in hours over a period of three years to $16 for a 40-hour week.

It would not be either an unreasonable or an un-American condition if all working men and women were guaranteed the protection against low wages and long hours specified by the measure. But unfortunately the bill does not assure even the modest minimum wage of $11 for a 44-hour week to all toilers. The exceptions are numerous and wide. According to the bill as it passed the House they include:

"Any employe employed in the catching, taking, harvesting, cultivating, or farming of any kind of fish, shellfish, crustacea, sponges, seaweeds, or other aquatic forms of animal and vegetable life, including the going to and returning from work and including employment in the loading, unloading or packing of such products for shipment or in propagating, processing, marketing, freezing, canning, curing, storing, or distributing the above products or byproducts thereof.

"Any employe employed in a bona fide executive, administrative, professional, or local retailing capacity, or in the capacity of outside salesman.

"Any employe employed as a seaman.

"Any employe engaged in agriculture.

"Any air transport employe subject to the provisions of title II of the Railway Labor Act.

"Weekly or semi-weekly newspapers with a circulation of less than 3,000 the major part of which circulation is within the county where printed and published."

The above exemptions are for both the minimum wage and maximum hour provisions of the bill.

In addition, the Secretary of Labor is specifically authorized to exempt from the minimum wage provisions of the bill, "to the extent necessary to prevent curtailment of opportunities for employment," learners, apprentices, and handicapped workers "whose earning capacity is impaired by age or physical or mental deficiency or injury." Wage rates for these groups will be determined by the Secretary of Labor.

With regard to the maximum hours provision the following persons are exempted:

"Any employe with respect to whom the Interstate Commerce Commission has power to establish qualifications and maximum hours of service pursuant to the provisions of section 204 of the Motor Carrier Act, 1935, or to any employe of an employer subject to the provisions of part I of the Interstate Commerce Act."

Employes "of an employer engaged in the first processing of milk, whey, skimmed milk, or cream into dairy products, or in the ginning and compressing of cotton, or in the processing of cotton seed."

Finally, with regard to maximum hours the bill provides that they shall not apply "for twelve work weeks in any calendar year" to the employes "of an employer engaged in the first processing of, or in canning, fresh fish or fresh seafood, or perishable fresh fruits or perishable fresh vegetables, or in handling, slaughtering, or dressing poultry or live stock."

Evidently from these broad exemptions there are many thousands of working men and women in the United States to whom it will not be mandatory for employers to pay even the unreasonably low wage of $11 for a 44-hour week.

A.F.L. Seamen's Union No. 21420 Succeeds Int'l Seamen's Union on Atlantic Coast

Green Informs Shipowners That Federation's New Affiliate "Is Entitled Under the Law to Act as the Sole Bargaining Agency" For Certain Employes Designated in National Labor Relations Board Order; Conferences With Representatives of Union Requested.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—The following letter was recently sent by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, to all steamship companies having collective bargaining relationships with the International Seamen's Union of America, an A. F. of L. affiliate in process of reorganization:

"The National Labor Relations Board has entered an order dated February 19, 1938 as a result of an election conducted by the Board among the unlicensed personnel employed by you, certifying the International Seamen's Union of America or its successor affiliated with the American Federation of Labor as the sole bargaining agency for the unlicensed personnel employed in your deck, engine and steward's departments, except wireless and radio operators, electricians on electrically driven ships and juniors who hold licenses on vessels operated out of Atlantic and Gulf ports by you.

Phrasing of Seamen's Ballot

"The words 'or its successor affiliated with the American Federation of Labor' following the name 'International Seamen's Union of America' were inserted by the National Labor Relations Board as a result of an argument made before the Board in September, last, by the American Federation of Labor counsel, Charlton Ogburn, Esq., in which he stated to the Board that the International Seamen's Union was being reorganized and asked the Board to defer for two or three weeks the beginning of the elections until the new name of the organization could be placed on the ballot. The Board, in its order dated the 11th of September 1937, denied this request but stated that the ballot would be so phrased that the American Federation of Labor union, on those lines where it received a majority of votes would be certified by the Board as the sole bargaining agency although this American Federation of Labor union was other than the International Seamen's Union.

Status of New Union

"As President of the American Federation of Labor, I am taking this means of informing you officially that the successor union, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, to the International Seamen's Union, comprising seamen on the Atlantic and Gulf, is called the American Federation of Labor Seamen's Union No. 21420 and as such is entitled under the law to act as the sole bargaining agency for those of your employees designated in the foregoing order.

"On behalf of the American Federation of Labor and of its American Federation of Labor Seamen's Union No. 21420, I ask a conference with you in which the union would be represented by Mr. Patrick Ryan and by a bargaining committee composed of Mr. Robert Chapdelaine, president of the Union, and Mr. Robert Lynch, secretary of the Union, for the purpose of negotiating a contract with you.

Grange Does Not Represent A. F. of L. Seamen

"I understand that a letter has been sent to some steamship companies purporting to be signed by the International Seamen's Union, David E. Grange, Vice President. Last August David E. Grange tendered his written resignation as vice president, member of the Executive Board, International Seamen's Union and as president of the Cooks and Stewards' Union, conditioned only on acceptance by me. In September I accepted Mr. Grange's resignation and so notified him, so that he no longer has any connection with the International Seamen's Union."